CRACK FOOTBALLERS. OF AUSTRALIA. TODAY AND YESTERDAY.

BOOK NO. 11

SEASON 1941

SCHOOLBOY FOOTBALLERS.

COMPILED BY Golden Boy

Football

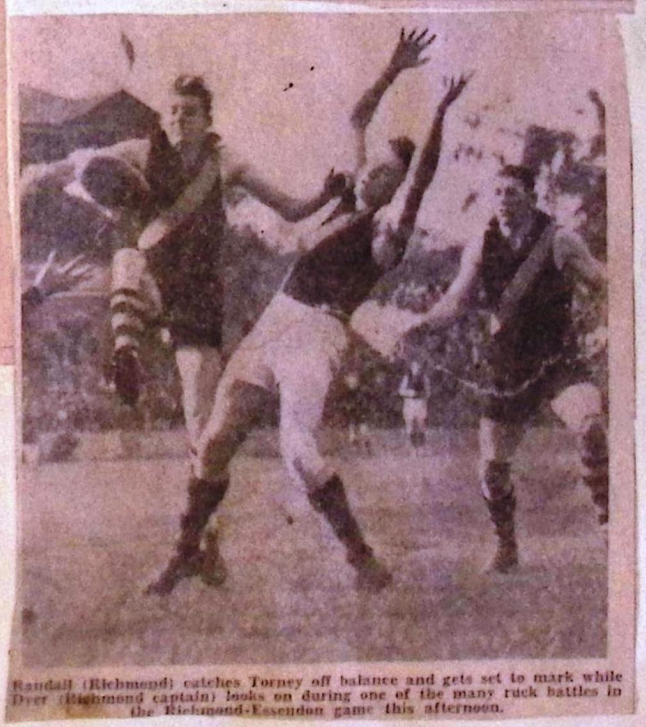
Campbell Breaks Up Melb. Thrust.

N. Campbell (Collingwood) takes a splendid finger-tip mark on Collingwood's back line while his team-mate, Smith, shepherds off opposition from Heal (Melbourne forward).

Set For a Sure Mark

Ellis gets set for a certain mark in defence for Footscray as Baxter arrives too late to press home South's advantage. Evanden (Footscray) watches his club-mate's efforts.

An incident at Richmond.—Torney (Essendon), giant follower, tries to break clear of Jack Dyer, Richmond captain.



Randall (Richmond) catches Torney off balance and gets set to mark while Dyer (Richmond captain) looks on during one of the many ruck battles in the Richmond-Essendon game this afternoon.

H. Guthrie, Claremont's sure half-back, takes no risks when jumping for this mark.

A free-kick to A. Shaw, the Claremont goal-keeper, is indicated here as C. Osmetti tackles him.

S. Maloney, a Claremont back, swerves to avoid an opponent.

Schoolboys Who Competed in The Annual Carnival.

RURAL YOUTH

The country schoolboys' annual football carnival was held in Perth this week. Photographs of the Geraldton, Busselton, Warren, Bunbury and Meckering-Cunderdin teams which were also in the competition will appear in next week's issue.

NELSON

NORTHAM

ALBANY

GOLDFIELDS

MERREDIN

COLLIE

Geraldton Boys Win Football

At the conclusion of the final game of the schoolboys' football carnival at Subiaco today trophies were presented by league chairman W. Stooke.

Geraldton, who have been champions of the first division for the past three years, during which they have not lost a match, were again adjudged champions.

Goldfields, who were unbeaten in the present series until today, were runners-up. Collie were declared champions of the second division. They were unbeaten this year.

Results:—

First division champions: Geraldton. Second division champions: Collie. Fairest and best player (first division): G. Green (Geraldton). Fairest and best player (second division): L. Peake (Meckering-Cunderdin). Parade champions: Bunbury.

Today's match scores:—

Northam, 7.15, beat Bunbury, 3.5; Narrogin, 11.6, beat Albany 3.6.

★MICK CRONIN'S reappearance on Saturday gave East Perth the necessary strength in the forward lines which was lacking for most of the season. Cronin has been out of the game for two years and marked his return by scoring five goals against Perth.

"Albie" Pannam

R. Trainor marks in front of East Perth team-mate W. Layton in the qualifying game against Perth.

N. Campbell (Collingwood) takes a splendid finger-tip mark on Collingwood's back line while his team-mate, Smith, shepherds off opposition from Heal (Melbourne forward).

CRONIN REAPPEARS.

In 1939 D. Cronin collapsed on a racecourse through a burst blood vessel in a leg and he spent some weeks in hospital. Last year he was reappointed captain-coach but played in only two matches before his leg enforced a retirement. He was appointed coach this season, stating that he did not intend to play. At training he has been active, though he has kicked mainly with his right foot. Officials have repeatedly suggested to him that he should play again. Last week the team was depleted and Cronin agreed to play. He acted as goal-sneak and kicked five goals.

"I intend to continue playing," Cronin said after the match. "That is, until my leg goes again. Still I felt no ill-effects after the game and quite a few players, including H. Screaigh, have come back to the game after having been laid up with a badly injured leg. Early in the piece I felt weak and in the first quarter kicked 1.3. After half-time I felt better and felt tempted to go into the centre when Clayton was hurt. I kicked the goals with punts but towards the finish was using drop-kicks. Although as a goal-sneak I am very far from being a Doig, Moloney or Tyson, I think I will stay at full forward. If I stay there, the players may come down the field with a definite object, instead of attacking haphazardly."

A PRACTICE DEPLORED.

At the last meeting of the league a letter was received from Mr. R. J. B. Miller, a member of the umpires board, pointing out that trainers were going on to the field during a game when no player required treatment for injury. He said that during the East Perth-Claremont match on August 9 he heard an official of the Claremont club call to one of the trainers and instruct him to go on to the field and give certain instructions to a player. As no player was injured, there was no reason why the trainer should have been allowed to go on to the field. Mr. Miller suggested that the league should take the necessary steps to stop this practice and prevent any further occurrences.

Mr. T. Nielsen, of Swan Districts, said that this was a blot on the game and it was agreed to draw the attention of clubs to the league's instructions that trainers must not go on to the ground and approach players unless necessitated by injuries.

Player of the Week.

In this series of sketches several brilliant, spectacular players have been praised. This week the honours go to a steady, reliable half-back—H. Guthrie, of Claremont. Because his football is not ostentatious, Guthrie is not less effective. He has sound judgment, thinks while he is playing and is scrupulously fair. He is one of the juniors with whom Claremont persevered until he gained confidence and now he is one of the most valuable men in the team. Usually he occupies a position on a half-back flank, but there have been occasions when he has been asked to check a centre-half-forward and usually he has fulfilled the task. Guthrie keeps close to his immediate opponent and is never ruffled. He marks well and handles the ball with sureness.

Last Saturday Claremont would have been thrashed by East Fremantle but for Guthrie and Reid. East Fremantle won decisively, but if it had not been so frequently held up by Guthrie its score would have been far greater. From the start Guthrie was efficient and in the third quarter, when Daniell struck form, the Claremont defence was riddled. Guthrie played on gallantly.

FOOTBALL ACE — HIS 1400 GOALS!

Kyne (Collingwood) and Fischer (Melbourne) get their fists to the ball simultaneously during a ruck tussle in the first quarter. Emselle (Melbourne) watches the result.

He Plays Beethoven

SONATA Farmer Prefers Beethoven, Mozart to modern composers. Here, he plays first movement of "Moonlight Sonata," on piano presented after he had kicked 1000th goal. His wife (with him) sings.

HOBBY At His Suburban Home, Farmer has 40 different species of cacti in garden. He always gardens on Saturday to take his mind off game. Non-drinker, non-smoker, he never has mid-day meal before match.

NINETEENTH MAN.

To Play or Not to Play.

After Claremont had won the one-day premiership on Saturday by two points from East Fremantle an argument developed. There is definitely a spirit of rivalry between these two clubs and after the final words were exchanged so freely in some quarters, mainly regarding wagers, a protest was suggested.

What happened was that Claremont sent its 19th man on to the field when J. Compton was outside the boundary line, injured, but Compton unwittingly returned to the field of play before he was sent off by his team-mates. Actually Claremont had 19 players on the field at one period. That period was brief and it is doubtful whether the 19th man (R. Matthews) touched the ball. Compton certainly did not approach the ball when he returned to the playing arena. Still, no team is permitted to have more than 18 players taking part in a match at one time. East Fremantle officials did not press the point, as the game was not of great importance and the main object was to raise funds for patriotic purposes.

Nevertheless, an important point has been raised. According to the rules the 19th man shall not enter the playing arena until the man he has to replace has left the playing arena. According to Rule 35, the field umpire may at the request of either captain stop the game and call the players into line at any time for the purpose of counting them. If during the progress of a game a team is detected in the manner provided by Rule 35 playing more than the number arranged for, or if a player, after having been replaced, returns to the field, all points scored by such team prior to detection or prior to the return to the field of the player who has been replaced shall be annulled.

Club officials are now worried about procedure. It is contended that a similar position may arise in a grand final.

MYSTERIOUS INCIDENT.

In the last few minutes of the West Perth-East Perth match on Saturday West Perth pressed forward desperately but could not score. Suddenly the ball was kicked from the centre line and E. Tyson, who had moved out from the goal, marked the ball. He was distant from the goal but it would have been possible for him to score or to kick the ball into the goal-mouth. To the general surprise he tried to run past opponents and the ball was taken from him and cleared. It was difficult later to find out what had really happened. Some of the players nearby agreed with Tyson that "play on" was called, yet the ball did not appear to be touched. Perhaps some shrewd East Perth man called "play on."

KEN FARMER CONTINUED FROM BOOK 10.

-: BIG SCORE :-

IN the Victorian Football Association competition today Port Melbourne scored 43 goals 29 behinds, against Sandringham, 7-0.

(Sport Section 4)

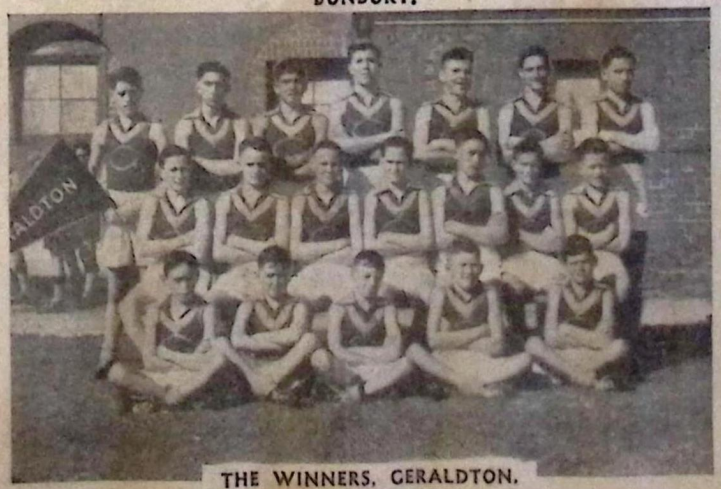
SCHOOLBOY TEAMS CONTINUED.

Country Schoolboy Football Teams

Teams which took part in the country schoolboys' football carnival held in Perth during last week.

BUNBURY.

BUSSELTON.



THE WINNERS, GERALDTON.

WARREN.

A ROLL OF CHAMPIONS.

Stars of East Fremantle.

NO club in the league has such a wealth of tradition and history as East Fremantle. Formed in 1899 after the Imperials, it has only twice been out of the final four and has the great record of 18 premiership victories. Although East Fremantle has been famed for the evenness of its teams, it has had its champions. Only after a great deal of persuasion on Saturday did Mr. T. Wilson, the first captain of the club, agree to select the club's best players and when he did he enlisted the aid of Mr. T. Lewis, who has been connected with the club since its inception, and Messrs. W. and H. Flindell, other "old faithfuls"—another instance of teamwork.

Mr. Wilson and his confreres were most emphatic about the best goalkeeper the club had had, naming D. Woods unanimously. He was a wonderfully accurate kick, had very sound judgment, and plenty of dash. He stood the test of time and could be shifted to the centre or half-forward line with success. Even more emphatically, Mr. Wilson named C. ("Bub") Jarvis as East Fremantle's greatest half-back. "He had dash, he marked brilliantly, he kicked well and his anticipation was uncanny; in fact, he could do everything brilliantly," said Mr. Wilson. "Without a doubt, he was the finest player we have ever had and he can be ranked with Albert Thurgood," interposed Mr. Lewis. "He was unorthodox but he was a real champion." Surely no footballer could receive such a reference. "Scotty" Doig, father of the late Ron Doig, was also mentioned.

Another of the more modern players was picked out when the discussion turned to the goal-sneak position. Unhesitatingly Mr. Wilson chose George Doig, then just towelling himself after having reached the century again. "He is my ideal as a forward," said Mr. Wilson. "He has courage and ability. He can get the ball for himself, he can work into position cleverly, and his shots seldom miss. His left-foot snap is something to marvel at and it has given him innumerable goals. Incidentally, his father, Charlie Doig, was a match-winning forward. He was clever and game."

"Who was our best centre man? Well, I would not attempt to separate 'Nipper' Truscott and 'Minnie' Palmer. Actually, they were opposites. Palmer was fast, strong and spectacular, and a great kick; Truscott was much smaller, less obtrusive, cleverer and just as effective —one of the best footballers I have ever seen." From there Mr. Wilson moved to wingers and he singled out H. Sharpe as the best. He described him as fast and shrewd, able to kick with perfect accuracy with either foot. He recalled that one day Sharpe was placed in the full forward position and kicked 14 goals.

In Mr. Wilson's estimation "Duff" Kelly was East Fremantle's star half-forward before he went to South Fremantle. He was a big man with remarkable kicking ability and was a real match-winner. "Without a doubt, our best ruck man was Albert Heinrichs, the type who could keep going for ever and was ever-reliable," said Mr. Wilson. "He had tremendous pace and actually was a rover-follower." One of the little gathering remarked that he had seen Heinrichs kick the ball towards the wrong end, chase it and recover it, having pace to burn. "Fat" Iron was here mentioned as an outstanding ruck man. "As a rover Dick Sweetman had no peer," Mr. Wilson went on. "He was pacy, tough and versatile."

Once warmed up to the subject, the old hands reeled off name after name. Archie Strang was the best all-rounder, though "Dolly" Christie must not be forgotten, for "he was always to be relied on when trouble was brewing; in fact, the fiercer the fray, the happier he would be." And then there was Ernie Riley, than whom East Fremantle has never had a better high mark. Jack Scobie, from South Melbourne, Dolph Heinrichs, "Carbine" Gullen and numerous others were mentioned almost with reverence. It was recalled that Scobie in the 1918 premiership final beat Matson after Vic Carlson and Truscott had failed against him. That the art of drop-kicking was in danger of being lost through the hurry and scurry of present-day football was pointed out and "Barney" Sheedy was named as the club's best exponent. No definite opinion could be elicited regarding the greatest premiership victory, and after the 1904 and 1914 teams were mentioned, arguments arose as to the best side the club had ever fielded.

"Our best half-back line was the Richards-Jarvis-O. Gabrielson combination," asserted Mr. Lewis. "That was the best line I have ever seen." "But," he was asked, "what about the Boyd-Craig-Gosnell line?" He was not to be shaken. "I would back the East Fremantle line against that," he replied confidently. It was with regret that the discussion was terminated.

Goal List

G. Doig, E.F. (9)	110
G. Moloney, C. (6)	103
E. Tyson, W.P. (13)	101
E. Holdsworth, S.D. (3)	62
M. O'Loughlin, E.P. (5)	43
J. Pola, W.P. (—)	42
C. Rosewarne, S.D. (1)	41
R. Tucker, P. (—)	41
B. Nayler, S.F. (5)	40
B. Bunton, S. (1)	39
N. Gorn, S.F. (1)	36
W. Baker, W.P. (7)	35
G. Meiers, E.F. (3)	35
R. McGhan, P. (3)	34

—V—

Collingwood Win In The Air

Lambert (Collingwood full-forward) takes a nicely judged mark in front of goal as Chitty (Carlton) makes a last-minute attempt to punch the ball out of danger.

Lightning Premiership.

THERE will be a break in the League's competition on Saturday when a lightning premiership in aid of Patriotic Funds will be staged at Subiaco Oval. The eight league clubs will participate and there will be four qualifying matches, two semi-finals and a grand final. Play will commence at 1 p.m. and the final is timed to finish at 5.11. Each match will consist of two sessions, each of 15 minutes.

★FOR the ninth year in succession George Doig has accomplished the feat of kicking over 100 goals in a season. Doig joined East Fremantle in 1933 and has been one of the side's most brilliant players.

The first player to secure 100 goals in Australian league football this season was Bruce Shultz, the Norwood full forward, who kicked his hundredth goal two weeks ago. Murray is the leading Victorian goal kicker with 74, although three association players in Pratt, Nash and Lynch have each scored over the century.

Wanted a Forward

Magpies Just Short Of A Great Team

GIVEN a full forward of the calibre of a Gordon Coventry or a Ron Todd, Collingwood had sufficient field talent to to have won the premiership flag for 1941.

BAD luck as it goes, considering that for 40 years Collingwood's forward talent was extraordinary, in a game extraordinary for forward talent.

Now, because their ability to get goals is decidedly below average, this young and accomplished Magpie team has missed the four. The weight of forward inability proved a burden even beyond the back of this generally talented team.

At the beginning of this season Globe staff in Jim Abernethy and Herb Coombes reported that Collingwood had a phenomenal crop of recruits. Given one or two key men, they would do better than the football world generally thought.

Every key position was adequately covered eventually with the exception of full forward. There was Jack Regan for full back. Centre half-back was a moot point. Centre was the natural stamping ground of Marcus Whelan, a champion in his profession. "Phonse" Kyne was naturally centre half-forward.

But full forward was a living mark of interrogation—Who? Who? Who?

After experiment, Unwin became centre half-back and a good one.

Rucks were produced. The second rover to Pannam—Mears or Richards—stabilised into Richards. The ribs were covered satisfactorily. Team work was developed according to the old Collingwood plan—fast running exchanges, expert handball, clever shepherding, and clever marking.

Mr. Orr Improves

Mr. W. Orr, secretary of the W.A. National Football League, who was injured in a car accident last Saturday night, is making good progress.

He is still in St. John of God Hospital, Subiaco, where he was taken last Sunday and it is not expected that he will be able to leave for at least a few days.

Mr. Orr sustained a fractured knee and two fractured ribs.

"It could have been worse, so we're not growling," was his laconic comment today.

Mr. Orr has near him a couple of memorandum pads and is keeping in close touch with League and football affairs generally.

—V—

What Is A Fair Bump?

WHEN a player is making for goal and looks certain to score, what can a defender do to stop him? The rules say he can bump the man with the ball or push him in the side or chest with the open hand.

But what does the umpire say?

He invariably awards a free kick against the man delivering the bump and makes a sad display of theatricals in doing so.

We saw such a happening in the Collingwood-Carlton game when Pannam, in the goal square, was knocked off his feet by a perfectly fair but solid bump from Chitty.

A free kick was given Pannam, to the amazement of all unbiased observers.

But what followed turned the whole incident against the umpire. Another small Collingwood man ran into the pack, throwing himself about in threatening fashion and committing half a dozen serious breaches of the rules in as many seconds.

Instead of the free kick being taken from Pannam and awarded against this aggressive Collingwood player, Pannam was allowed to take his kick. A gift goal to Collingwood followed, when the correct decision should have been a free kick to Carlton.

Throughout the season legitimate bumps to check the player with the ball have been penalised. Why? Unfortunately a scene is usually provoked by the umpire's wrong decision.

Reputable players in many teams have told me that umpires have explained their action by declaring that the bump was "too hard." Is this A.N.F.C. or just some new ridiculous differentiation, no doubt introduced under the dragnet rule that an umpire is the judge of all fair and unfair tactics?

League Football.

THE results of Saturday's games shed no further light on the composition of the four semi-finalists. Three matches only remain to be played and South Fremantle still have a chance of displacing either Claremont or East Perth. Both teams are two games in front and have engagements against South Fremantle. East Perth's programme is the most difficult, as its next three games are against East and South Fremantle and West Perth. The position is interesting with only East Fremantle and West Perth definitely safe.

PREMIERSHIP TABLE.

	W.	L.	For	Agst.	P.C.	Pts.
E.F.	13	4	1,883	1,353	139	52
W.P.	12	5	1,704	1,390	122	48
C.	11	6	1,790	1,514	118	44
E.P.	11	6	1,336	1,208	110	44
S.F.	9	8	1,641	1,389	118	36
S.	6	11	1,235	1,740	70	24
S.D.	3	14	1,486	1,940	76	12
P.	3	14	1,244	1,785	69	12

A Forward Genius

NORMAN SMITH—THE DADDY OF THEM ALL

I am wondering if football has produced a better forward than Norman Smith.

Smith has introduced something new into the work of a centre forward—something that is best described as a decoy and convoy system.

TALK of full forwards usually ranges around the number of goals they obtain. A goal kicked is a personal triumph for the full forward, and his rating is proportionately advanced.

Smith has scorned all such stuff. "I don't get the goals, WE get the goals" is his policy and a good policy it is, too.

Consequently Smith never "rates" in goals scored more than round about the leaders, but add up the goals Melbourne scores through Baggott, Maurie Gibb, Beames, Wartman, Downing or any other second rover, credit two-thirds of them to Smith, and then see how the tallies work out.

There is no exaggeration that Smith is directly or indirectly responsible for two-thirds of the goals obtained by other Melbourne forwards.

He leads away from goal, gathers the ball in his stride, despatches it with a flashing hand-pass to either Baggott or Gibb, who run in to meet him. In his next stride he doubles back to cleverly "block" the opposition.

Then, when the incident is closed, he is as pleased about it, and shows it, as is if he had got the goal himself.

He is robust, game as a couple of pebbles, a most unorthodox but accurate mark, hard to unbalance, and difficult to attack because of his protective body contortions.

Alternatively, he leads to a blind. While the defence troops after him the ball is kicked high to Mueller, whose patrol is never more than five yards from the posts.

Often he runs out to centre half-forward, while Baggott, centre half-forward, doubles back to full forward. They move—these Melbourne forwards—like a hair-trigger machine operated from a central control. Smith is the central control.

He moulds, he operates the mechanism of the finest attack we have seen for many years. To master the Melbourne attack every forward has to be checked. Nothing else is good enough.

Goal getting is the key to success. That is why this master technician might well be the greatest genius in attack we have seen.

On Saturday Norman got 12 goals against Footscray, bringing his total to 78 for the season.

D. Cronin, the East Perth goal-sneak takes a mark.

WHOSE MARK? Chitty (Carlton) and Lambert get their hands on the ball simultaneously as the Magpies threaten Carlton's goal. McIntyre (Carlton) watches the struggle.

EAST PERTH HISTORY.

"Broad Outlook on Life."

(By "Follower.")

"IN my opinion anyone who attempts to rank a champion of today above or below a champion of the early days of football is, at least, unwise." That was how Mr. F. I. Bray, a life member of East Perth and of the league, responded to a request for an interview regarding East Perth's best players. "Time has brought a change of style and conditions and it would be a brave or a foolish man who would dare to rank Larry Duffy above Hedley Tomkins, or 'Nashy' Brentnall above Jack Savage, or vice versa."

Mr. Bray concealed his opinions of East Perth's champions, but he made no secret of his estimation of the value of football as a sport. He pointed out that many of the State's best footballers had risen to high executive positions. "Some persons think that because a man plays football there is something wrong in his outlook," Mr. Bray went on. "Far from it. The mere fact of physical contact makes for manliness and a spirit of real sportsmanship is inculcated. Footballers develop a broad outlook on life and football has produced a great number of men who have worked up to high positions through sheer ability and personality." Mr. Bray did say that in present-day football the great personalities were missing, but he blamed the changed rules largely for the loss of individuality.

"My big hope is to see football advanced in the schools," Mr. Bray said. "Physical fitness is something aimed for more now than ever before. Football helps in the general education of boys and contributes to their better health. Give a boy a sound body and he has a zest in life. In my opinion, the Education Department should appoint a special officer to organise football in the schools and to organise generally for the betterment of the physical standard."

While it was impossible to persuade Mr. Bray to compare or contrast prominent East Perth players, the interviewer managed to extract an opinion from him about the late Phil Matson. "He was the most far-sighted football official I have ever known," said Mr. Bray. "As a player he showed brains and always kicked the ball to advantage. I remember watching a game in Phil's company and being unable to follow his line of thought. He could turn a losing player into a match-winner."

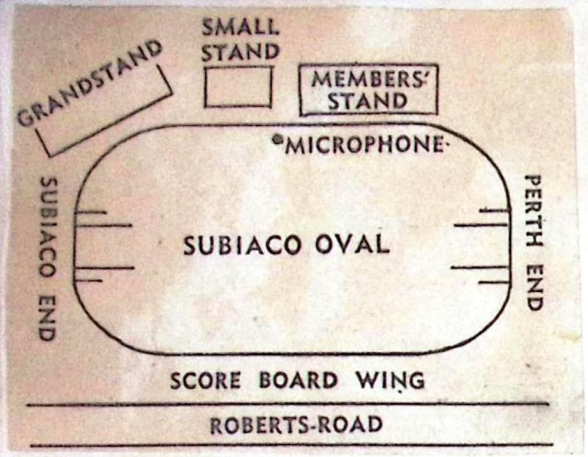
Thoughtfully, Mr. Bray had drawn up a list of East Perth's most prominent players and some he had underlined. Among those underlined was J. J. Savage, who played 69 games for East Perth from 1908 to 1911. He was a famous half-back and gained a Rhodes scholarship. Hedley Tomkins (1914-1915) played only 20 games for East Perth, but he was a first-class rover. He came from Melbourne and during the Great War lost a leg.

Mr. Bray ranked Val Sparrow among East Perth's best players. He described him as a great forward and pointed out that he was a captain of the team and later an umpire. "Digger" Thomas also came into this select company. "He was a wonderful centreman and half-forward," said Mr. Bray. "He gave the club great service, won a Sandover Medal, and produced a son of whom the club is proud."

"Nugget" Clepp was named by Mr. Bray as one of East Perth's most useful players. He was a pupil of the late Phil Matson and for years he played cleverly. Later he become coach of Claremont. "'Staunch' Owens was one of the finest players East Perth ever had," said Mr. Bray. "He could do anything and was Phil Matson's best pupil." Mr. Bray expressed the opinion that "Nashy" Brentnall dashed through from the half-back line faster than he could now drive an engine. "He was great," said Mr. Bray simply. Larry Duffy was one of the State's greatest rovers, according to Mr. Bray, who ventured the opinion that any club today would give anything to have a Paddy Hebbard on the half-forward line. Albert Western, "a tough ruckman," and "Bonny" Campbell, "a great forward," were others mentioned emphatically by Mr. Bray.

A. Andrews (father of the Swan Districts player now in the R.A.N.), A. J. and W. Hesford ("alike as two peas"), W. Loughridge, Don McKinnon, Frank Olivier, Sam Sloss, Jack Brown, Darby Crawford, F. Dorney, B. Wallish, W. Crawford, Tom Gill, J. C. Healy, C. McKenzie, "Snowy" Harris, C. Hardistry, Arthur Nash, Aubrey Parsons, Vernon Harrold, Tom Hughes, E. Fellows, H. Sherlock, Jack Scott, A. Herd, C. Slatter, "Ike" Allen, Bert Harrold, Ben Deering, C. King, W. Moloney, W. Hilton, H. Groom, J. Cuhl and S. A. Taylor (now Auditor-General) were other East Perth men mentioned by Mr. Bray. He made no attempt to involve the present with the past.

B. Lardi (E.F.) and R. Graham (E.P.) leap for the ball from a throw-in.



DISCIPLINE COUNTS.

The Subiaco Club has had a hard struggle during recent seasons and it has been unsuccessful. It made a bold experiment when it imported from Victoria H. Bunton, L. Hardiman and K. Shea, but fruitlessly. Subiaco's decline has been a matter of concern to the league as well as to the club officials and supporters, as few of the games at Subiaco Oval this year have been attractive.

Well in the running for the Sandover Medal, F. Williams showed a lapse of form. His efforts did not please the selectors, and he was omitted from the team. Last Saturday, however, he was played and he played well. His aim should be to give the club the best service possible and, at the same time, to strengthen his claims to the Sandover Medal. There is some honour attached to the umpires' selection of the "fairest and best player."

A. Neeson, East Perth's centre-half-forward, takes a mark in front of East Fremantle opponents.

Player of the Week.

Although forwards kick goals and, in this particular case, kick them in hundreds, the goal-sneak seldom receives his merited praise. Goals win matches and, if a team has not a reliable forward to kick them, it labours under a serious handicap. G. Doig, the East Fremantle captain, is the player under notice this week and it is recalled that in 1933 when he burst into fame by kicking East Fremantle's goals he gained few votes for the Sandover Medal. The goal-sneak is a marked man. He is, or should be, the most accurate forward in the team, and his colleagues do, or should, endeavour to give him the ball as frequently as possible. It is understandable, therefore, that he is buffeted and bustled by the opposing back men. He takes hard knocks and he is expected to kick goals.

George Doig is a champion forward. He has stuck to the East Fremantle ship for better and for worse, and it is his ambition this year to be captain of a premier team. Last Saturday, against East Perth, his exhibition of forward play was delightful. He worked his immediate opponent out of position, took brilliant marks and kicked accurately. His left-foot snapshots were excellent and he proved his ability to get the ball for himself. Some goal-sneaks have to have the ball served up on a plate (and they achieve success) but Doig can battle for the ball and get it.

RIVAL TEAMS.

Fourth Place Unsettled.

If South Fremantle is to reach the semi-final stage, it must beat East Perth on Saturday. Undoubtedly South Fremantle has a strong side and it is capable of beating any team in the league when all its players show their true form. East Perth, on the other hand, has unlimited possibilities. On Saturday it played brilliantly in the second term but, through a weakness in the ruck, it suffered defeat.

The appearance of D. Cronin, the coach, on the field meant a great deal to East Perth. Both he and G. Doig kept the forward lines open. In the last quarter Cronin gave way to an irresistible temptation to play at the centre and there he did well. When most players get the ball most spectators offer up a prayer for a good delivery. When Cronin gets the ball he does try to kick it to the advantage of the side, and seldom does he fail.

South Fremantle is a team of big possibilities and of big disappointments. In J. Bowe it has a conscientious coach who has strived to gain the best from every player. Individually South Fremantle is strong, but it does lack East Fremantle's, and Claremont's, initiative from the ruck. Styles have changed, but the rule that ruckmen and rovers must act as defenders and attackers still applies.

Recent matches between the two teams have resulted as follows:—

South Fremantle 9.18, beat East Perth 3.6, at Subiaco; East Perth 7.9, beat South Fremantle 7.8, at Fremantle.

BIG MAN IMPROVES.

One of the most satisfactory features of the match against Perth from Claremont's point of view was the improved form shown by R. Heusler. He is a big player who usually strikes his best form in the vital matches. This season Heusler has had further trouble with a knee and has not played regularly. At his best, Heusler is a brilliant half-forward and a useful follower. He has a vice-like grip on the ball, and his drop-kicks are exceptionally long. Claremont needs all its big men now and Heusler seems certain to be a conspicuous player from now until the season ends.

LEAGUE LADDER

	P.	W.	L.	D.	Points For	Points Agst.	P.C.	P.
Carlton	18	14	4	—	1948	1619	120.3	56
Melb.	18	14	4	—	1993	1701	117.2	56
R'mond	18	14	4	—	1714	1469	116.7	56
Essendon	18	13	5	—	1864	1431	130.3	52
C'wood	18	12	6	—	1743	1571	110.9	48
Footscray	18	10	8	—	1676	1517	110.5	40
Fitzroy	18	8	10	—	1695	1760	96.3	32
S. Melb.	18	8	10	—	1397	1557	90.0	32
N. Melb.	18	6	12	—	1759	1893	92.9	24
Geelong	18	3	15	—	1561	1889	83.0	12
St. Kilda	18	3	15	—	1454	1775	81.9	12
Hawthorn	18	3	15	—	1367	2003	68.2	12

KEN FARMER CHAMPION S. AUST'S FULL FORWARD:

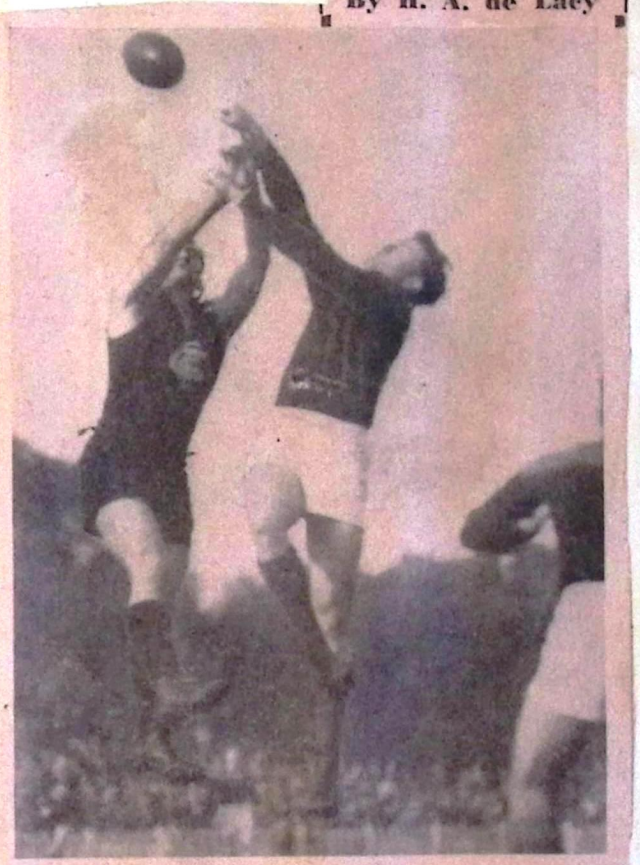
RETURN TO FORM.

E. Holdsworth, of Swan Districts, gave by far his best display for the season on Saturday against Subiaco. One of the keenest men in the game, Holdsworth has been unable to train since the start of the season and his football has suffered in consequence. On Saturday he revealed confidence, marked exceptionally well, kicked nicely and was dashing. He was centre-half-forward early; then he changed to the full-forward position; and then returned to the half-forward line. He did best when on the half-forward line and had Subiaco worried. Holdsworth has a real goal sense in that seldom does one of his kicks from any position or angle go far from the posts. Had Rosewarne been in the team to back him up, Swan Districts would have felt far more confident, for the pair collaborate cleverly and Rosewarne kicks accurately.

The team has been extremely unlucky. It has played vigorously and well and prides itself on its fighting spirit, yet for some reason it has been losing its matches towards the finish. Injuries have affected it and on Saturday both Mosey and K. Murray were hurt. "It is nice to know that we are playing well, but unfortunately we are dropping further and further behind on the premiership table," said an official after the match. Still, the supporters can console themselves in the knowledge that the players are all triers.

Clutching hands—B. Lardi, on East Fremantle defender leaps, but misses a mark

FOOTBALL SECTION
By H. A. de Lacy



Wrout (Carlton centre half-forward) and his opponent, Cordner, struggling for aerial supremacy at a critical moment during a Carlton move on Melbourne's goal.

GLOBE STAFF SUMS UP

LATEST IDEAS on TEAM FORM

HERE are the latest reports of the form of the finalists as seen by The Globe football staffs in Saturday's games.

Of most immediate importance are the opinions of Rod McGregor on Essendon and Perc Bowyer and Herb Coombes on Richmond.

"'DONS BETTER ORGANISED"

...Rod McGregor

I THOUGHT that Essendon were a little better organised than they were earlier in the season. They showed better dash and more concerted action advancing to goal. At the moment, therefore, having overcome one of their most pointed weaknesses, they look a better scoring side than they did some weeks back.

They have a weakness in the centre, but on the wings I thought Coward and Caesar showed a nice balance. They delivered the ball better, though I still think that Caesar could forward the ball to better advantage. He plays too often to the corner—a bad scoring spot—and would do better to swing the ball across into the open more often.

Essendon were outroved particularly at the centre bounce. Torney got the hit-out but the Fitzroy rovers stole his thunder. Coupled with the weakness in the centre this gave rise to a bad blind spot in the Essendon moves. It will no doubt be exploited to the discomfiture and loss of Essendon in the finals.

Their defence was sound — dashing and fearless. In good weather Buttsworth is a master.

Summed up, in comparison with Richmond, I see Essendon's pace troubling the Tigers. They kept Fitzroy moving and it was Fitzroy's pace that beat Richmond three weeks ago.

On the other hand I can see the effectiveness of Essendon rucks reduced through the success of the Richmond rovers. I find it hard to pick the winner—pace will be matched against power.

"TIGERS LACK PACE"

...Perc. Bowyer

RICHMOND are seriously deficient in pace. Time after time Geelong led them to the ball and made them look second-raters. Had it not been for a solid ruck drive, which was in evidence from bounce to bell, Richmond would have had great difficulty in mastering the speedier side.

The Tiger defence, with McGuire the exception and the most outstanding player, had a certain quality of inconsistency. I think that a good set of forwards, with fast-moving flankers, would have little difficulty in rattling the defence. That, at least, is how I saw it on Saturday.

Richmond's attack relies mostly on players with long experience. They did a good job on Saturday. They are adaptable and accurate, with Dyer a valuable decoy when resting in a forward pocket. The evergreen Titus is still the spearhead and it is from his moves that Richmond gain most of their scores.

The centre line on Saturday was steady. The wings, Merritt and Edwards, played well. Waldron, in the centre, lacks match practice, but the game should do him good.

Richmond's form, on the whole, was not impressive from a premiership point of view. They gave too much away early. However, stamina must play a big part, and on Saturday Richmond finished full of running.

I don't think this will be a hard premiership to win. Any team striking a top patch can carry the flag. I think that Carlton are playing better than any other side in the four.

Melbourne are well equipped but badly lack a ruck drive, which is one of Carlton's strong points.

"ESSENDON GOALS BETTER"

...Herb. Coombes

"I HAVE seen both Richmond and Essendon in recent weeks. Neither are premiership teams. But I would say that on Richmond's showing on Saturday the 'Dons are goals the better team.

Geelong showed Richmond how football should be played while their condition lasted. In fact, at one stage they had Richmond so beaten for pace and team-work that I thought they might even go on and beat them. As it transpired, Richmond did not win until Geelong's condition collapsed.

To me, it was a poor premiership try-l by Richmond. They were beaten across the centre while their defence was crazy-handball when a kick was demanded, short passing at the wrong time, and a general vagueness of co-operation.

The old solid, blocking defence of a good Richmond team is missing. This defence is just so many parts. Some of its work is frail and fainthearted as I saw it. There is an absence of robustness and grit. No, the Tiger defence is not good enough.

Essendon will run the Richmond side of Saturday off its legs on the wide Melbourne ground, unless I saw a false Richmond. The Tigers lack pace and their big men are playing with a wildness that leaves a lot of crumbs for fast moving scouts.

I'd say Essendon.

JACK DYER will lead the Tigers in their do-or-die effort.

ASSOCIATION FOUR UNALTERED

THE Association finalists are Port Melbourne, Prahran, Coburg, Preston, at present in that order. The only change possible is whether Coburg can oust Prahran from second place. With only one round remaining that possibility is fairly remote.

IN order for Coburg to finish second it will be necessary for Williamstown to beat Prahran, and Coburg beat Preston. While there is every chance of Coburg winning, Williamstown are playing too badly to hope for success. Williamstown had the chance at Brunswick of winning and putting themselves in the four, but they failed badly.

Brunswick can be considered unlucky. They are playing brilliant football, but have to be content with fifth place. In beating Williamstown, they were on top in all departments. Brunswick have wonderful understanding as a team with every man combining well.

Williamstown, despite the inclusion of Ron Todd and Des Fothergill, have failed completely. On paper they are strong, but on performances they have been sadly wanting. It is evident that several old faces will have to be omitted from this side for 1942. It is a pity that the Seasiders have not made the grade, for the material is there.

Another mammoth score was posted against Sandringham — this time by Port Melbourne, with 43.29.287. This total is an Association record, beating Brunswick's 37.15 against Oakleigh in 1939. It is also a record for Australian senior football, bettering the 43.19 by Western Australia in the 1934 Carnival against Queensland.

Preston had their first win for five weeks, and made their place in the four certain. They had little difficulty in downing Yarraville. Prahran, although winning easily from Oakleigh, were not impressive. Laurie Nash got 13 of Camberwell's 17 goals against Northcote.

In this match Roy Cazaly made a reappearance. With Camberwell having no chance of making the finals he stripped so as to get better first-hand knowledge of his side as their playing coach. He went very quietly, but at the same time showed that he is still in good condition and knows the game.

Scores:—

Brunswick 19.23.137, d. Williamstown 9.16.70.

Coburg 21.19.145, d. Brighton 12.12.84.

Preston 29.27.201, d. Yarraville 14.10.94.

Prahran 19.21.135, d. Oakleigh 10.16.76.

Port Melbourne 43.29.287, d. Sandringham 7.9.51.

Camberwell 17.8.110, d. Northcote 10.17.77.

"DICK" REYNOLDS, triple Brownlow Medallist, is captain-coach of Essendon — favorites for the first League semi-final.

BAILEY & CHITTY. FLY FOR A MARK.

JACK SYMONS was outstanding for the Tigers and was unbeatable in any part of the field, marking splendidly and worked tirelessly when following. In a game where the mistakes of team mates were numerous, it was pleasing to see how he strived to rectify them by consistently playing to position. Had Richmond responded early in the game to the many openings created by him, their road to goal would certainly have been easier, while their position in the four might have improved.

SIGNED up by St. Kilda for next season, Jack Caddy, from West Perth, visited the St. Kilda rooms before the match to renew acquaintances with St. Kilda players he had met when St. Kilda visited the West in 1938. Caddy represented West against St. Kilda in the games played. He is a former clubmate of "Pop" Heal and Bill Lingsbury, now with Melbourne. Caddy arrived last week and is at Puckapunyal with the Anti-tank Regiment. He was anxious to play on Saturday but was unable to obtain early leave. He expects to return to the West in the next week or so to play in the final round with his own club. He is a centreman and has been with West Perth for four seasons, and has had as his mentor Ross Hutchinson, former interstate player.

MELBOURNE JUST SAVE THE DOUBLE CHANCE

Richmond Make A Determined Bid

MELBOURNE had the narrowest escape possible from losing the double chance in the Victorian League finals when they were beaten on their merits by Carlton on Saturday before 25,666 people, who paid £1008—this amount is less tax.

Richmond won easily against Geelong, and finished with a percentage of 116.7 as against Melbourne's 117.2. As a result Richmond third, and Essendon fourth, will play the first League semi-final at the Melbourne Cricket Ground on Saturday.

ALL considerations that the game between Carlton and Melbourne would prove an anti-climax, were quickly put at rest after half-time, when Carlton, clapping on the pace, piled up a six goal lead.

Realising the seriousness of the situation, Melbourne came back at them in the final term like a team possessed. Their captain, La Fontaine, playing magnificently, stimulated an attack that had previously been held by the bustling, shoulder to shoulder tactics of the Carlton defenders.

Forsaking Melbourne's regular high-kicking game, La Fontaine drove the ball low, and Carlton's lead was overhauled. However, Melbourne could not get up.

Carlton won on their merits. Their bustling tactics succeeded, and showed that Melbourne do not like a team ruffling them and out-pacing them at the same time.

The first three quarters were not a good criterion for Melbourne's prospects in the final.

As the tempo of the game increased, Melbourne came back hard, but they knew nothing but the high, direct work which had previously brought them success. Carlton spoiled them in the air and out-paced them on the ground.

The first half was a dull scramble, a hotch-potch of rough and tumble. Melbourne were forced to shoot for goal from long distances, and this piled up a score of inaccuracy against them.

The hero for the day for Carlton was Wrout, who got goals in the most amazing fashion and with no few body contortions. Melbourne's champion was La Fontaine.

Bride, in handling the game, made mistakes, and allowed too many liberties in the first half. In the second half, he was a really good umpire, except that here and there a mistake occurred—mostly costly to Carlton.

To summarise, Carlton proved themselves a resourceful team; they won in the ruck, spoiled where they could not win, and played together with much better team work than Melbourne.

"Richmond's ruck strength and 'tear-through' methods proved too much for the loung and lighter Geelong side," said Perc Bowyer. "Geelong showed all the pace, and had Richmond trailing practically all day until near the finish, when they were thoroughly tired. In the closing stages they proved an easy prey. Richmond's form was far from impressive from a premiership point of view."

After the game between Hawthorn and South Melbourne, Cyril Nott said: "Hawthorn played particularly well. They won across the centre and had the advantage in the air, besides handling the ball with greater sureness and making better use of it than did South Melbourne. Both sides finished well, but Hawthorn right throughout were the more impressive side."

Describing the Footscray-St. Kilda match, Frank Walsh said: "Footscray's small men won the game for the Bulldogs. The Seasiders had no counter for the elusiveness and pace of the Footscray midgets, who nullified many promising moves by St. Kilda's heavy brigade by dash and anticipation However, the Seasiders' efforts in attack were superior to those of the locals, who wasted many chances by poor approach to goal and short-passing within range. The game lacked spectacle and was a very poor affair."

"Collingwood's superiority in the air was not enough to counter their inaccuracy in front of goals," said Gordon Rattray. "North Melbourne combined pace with the 'will to win.' The teams were level at three-quarter time, when it was anybody's game. Against the wind in the last quarter North played desperately to hold their hard-earned lead."

Rod McGregor said that the Essendon-Fitzroy match was a brilliant game, in which Essendon's early break and lead gave them the points. It was a game of many brilliant passages, and after letting Essendon get away from them, Fitzroy came back and had slightly the better of the scoring. In the last quarter he thought Fitzroy might win, but a timely revival by Essendon gave them the decision.

There was a mild demonstration against the St. Kilda players as they were coming off the field at Footscray. Spectators crowded around the race, and several players were alleged to have been spat at by onlookers.

ESSENDON CHOSEN TO BEAT TIGERS

ESSENDON are my choice for the first League semi-final at the M.C.G. on Saturday. I think they will outpace Richmond, who I think are not playing as well at present as they have been.

This week it is a sudden-death issue, with no second chance for the beaten side. Winners will meet losers of the second semi-final between Carlton and Melbourne. The loser of that match drops out.

NEITHER Essendon nor Richmond appeal to me as the premiership team. I would go so far as to suggest that Collingwood in the finals would have given a better account of themselves than either.

Essendon are pace crazy. They rush at bolting, breakneck speed where a more talented and a steadier side would manoeuvre. The result is that they over-run favorable leads, they stumble and trip where they should advance. There is a tendency to get the ball and run with it where a good kick would be more profitable.

Richmond are a powerful side, lacking the pace and the acceleration of Essendon. Richmond maintain that they are a fast side; but I can't agree. They are fast in a big, lumbering way, but when it comes to gathering crumbs they—apart from a man like Dick Harris—lack the talent.

DON DEFENCE THE PIVOT

Apart from pace, I think the game will be won and lost on the ability of the Essendon defenders to close down on Titus and the other Richmond forwards. Essendon have an excellent defence, while Richmond have a one-way track to goal—through Titus. Good and all as Titus' form is, the Burma Road can be closed by a defence such as Essendon possess.

If I were handling Richmond's fortunes in this game I would immediately set about creating another danger spot in the attack. Nothing recommends itself to me like the switching of Crane from the defence into the attack. A high marking forward such as Crane played on the wing half-forward—a man who can drive the ball in from up to 60 yards—would serve as a diversion.

The attack could be switched through him alternatively to the Titus leads. Give Crane five kicks and he'd get something like 3-2 or better.

At centre half-forward he would interfere with Titus.

Crane can be moved from full-back without loss to the side. Smeaton, to my mind, is a better type of full-back than Crane. He is more vigorous, more determined in his ground work.

Neither side is well served in the centre, but, taking the lines as combinations, I like Merritt-Waldron-Edwards, the Tiger trio, much better than Coward-Keddie (or Lambert)-Caesar. Merritt and Edwards deliver better than the Essendon wings, neither of whom seem to have the right ideas of feeding forwards.

DYNAMIC BIG MEN

Richmond are better served with strong dynamic big men. Dyer leads this division with Bawden, Symons, Randall and McGuire to support him. Essendon, too, have brilliant big men—none more effective than Torney, nor none more brilliant than Abbott — but these fellows lack the dynamic force of the Richmond men.

They can be more effective, however. Richmond's fate once again seems to hinge on the use the big men make of the ball. Anything wild will help the Dons.

The Richmond defence does not appeal. Neither does the Essendon attack; so something of an even break may be possible here.

To sum up, I think Essendon can play wide of Richmond's strength on the wide M.C.G. I am convinced that Richmond do not like stretching for the ball. They like to pack up the game. Essendon seem strong enough to hold their own in the air and fast enough to avoid trouble on the ground. Richmond's hope is in developing the power — ruck — drive football that sweeps all opposition aside, but they must maintain the drive for longer periods than formerly.

In wet going, Richmond are the team.

TEN MORE TO DOIG

George Doig got ten of Old Easts' 15 goals against Subiaco, who were never in the hunt.

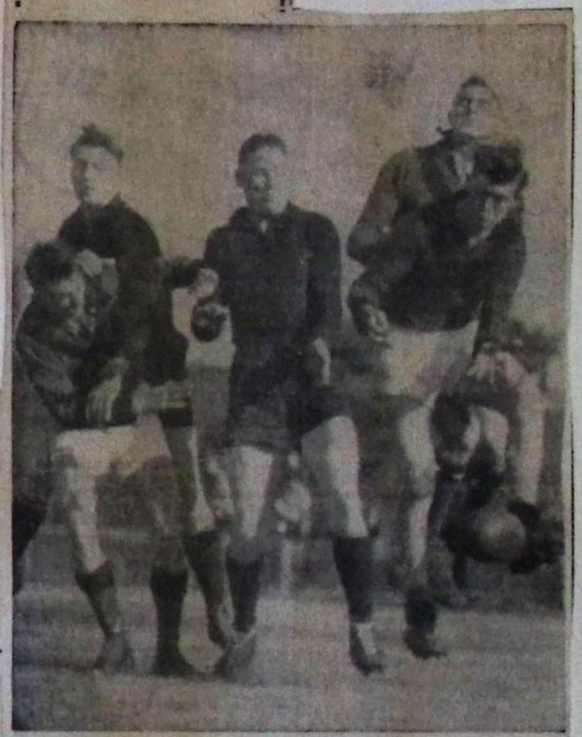
Up till the last minute Subiaco were still struggling for players and they included several juniors. East Fremantle made two last-minute changes, also, Marr and Soltoggio being included in the place of Briggs and Casserley.

G. DOIG'S HUNDRED

George Doig won the race for the 100th goal of the season in the second quarter of Old Easts' match with Claremont yesterday, finishing the game with 101 goals.

George Moloney, the opposing skipper, failed to "make it," with only two majors yesterday his tally stands at 97. Third in the field is Ted Tyson, the West Perth "sneak," who, with his tall score against Subiaco, jumped to 87.

A W.A.C.A. MIX-UP



This unusual camera shot taken at the W.A.C.A. ground yesterday shows Perth and East Perth players mixed up in a merry jumble. Perth players (black knickers) are W. Gordon and W. McKenzie, and the East Perth men are O'Loughlan, Starr (in the air), and Jebb.

Goal List

C. Doig, E.F. (10)	120
G. Moloney, C. (—)	103
E. Tyson, W.P. (1)	102
B. Holdsworth, S.D. (4)	66
M. O'Loughlin, E.P. (3)	46
J. Pola, W.P. (1)	43
R. Tucker, P. (2)	43
B. Naylor, S.F. (2)	42
C. Rosewarne, S.D. (—)	41
H. Bunton, S. (2)	41
W. Baker, W.P. (4)	39
N. Gorn, S.F. (2)	38

57,700 See Essendon Win

MELBOURNE, Saturday.

Essendon 21.9, beat Richmond, 11.15, in the first semi-final today.

The attendance was 57,741. The gate was £4853.

Association matches resulted:—

Northcote, 15.19, beat Brighton, 7.15. Camberwell, 20.16, beat Sandringham, 14.10; Port Melbourne, 12.21, beat Oakleigh, 7.15; Coburg, 13.17, beat Preston, 15.12; Prahran, 16.14, beat Williamstown, 13.18; Brunswick, 17.24, beat Yarraville, 13.10.

VICTORIAN FIGURES.

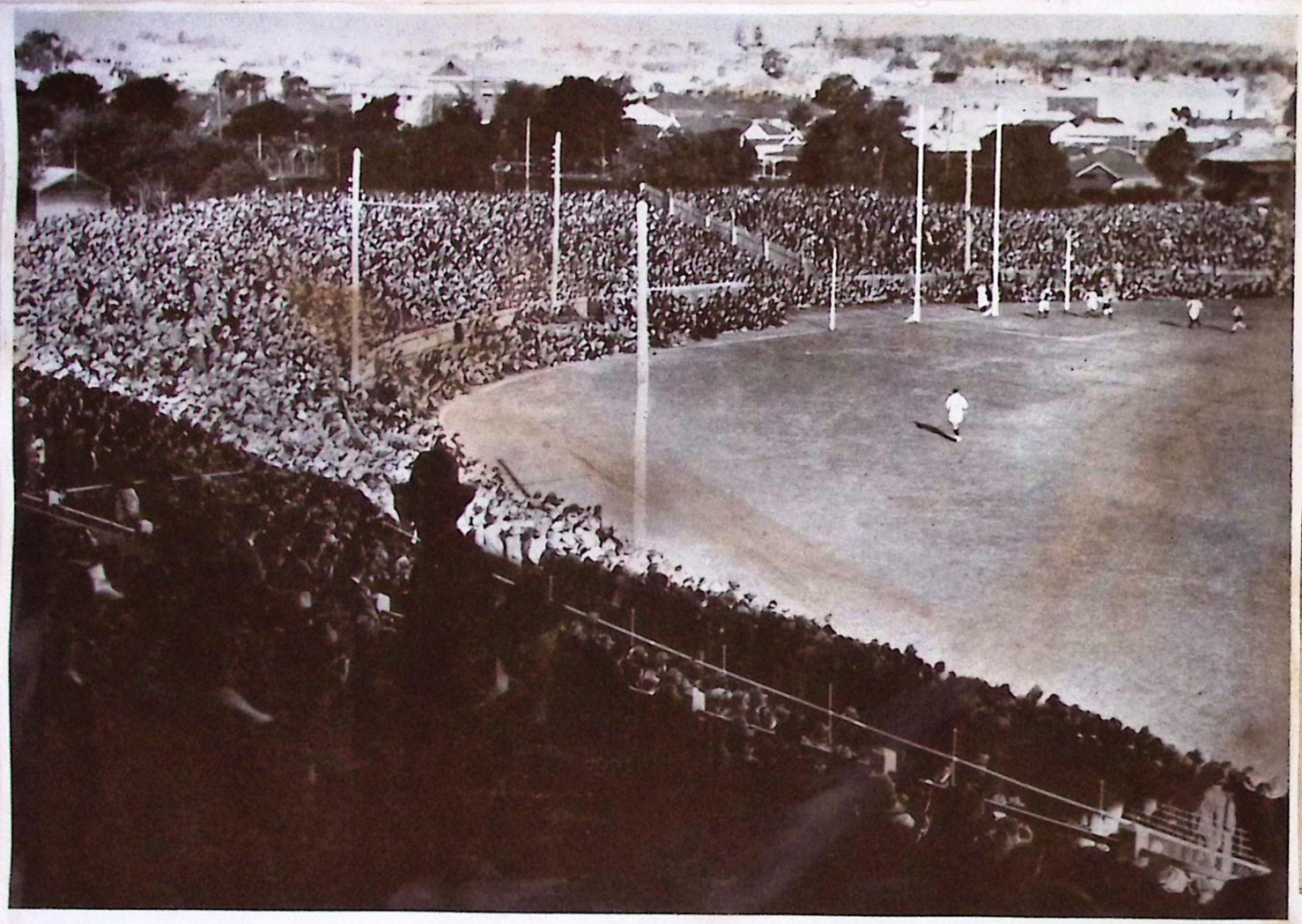
Gate receipts for the Victorian league's home-and-home series amounted to £31,130. This is £1,872, or 6.1 per cent more than last season's £29,258, and almost up to some fairly recent pre-war aggregates. Total attendances for the same period—1,193,390—are, however, 168,610 less than last year's 1,362,000, representing a drop of 12.4 per cent.

The surprising rise in takings, despite a fall in attendances, was due to proportionately more paying at turnstiles, following reduced club memberships generally. Sustained interest in the 1941 final four fight, topped off with three £1,000 "gates" at M.C.G., Collingwood and Carlton, gave both attendances and receipts a good lift at the finish. Admission charges were unaltered this season.

Summarised attendance figures for V.F.L. home-and-home series for this and eight previous seasons are:—

		Attendance	Takings
1933	(19 days)	1,684,500	£36,470
1934	(19 days)	1,698,100	£36,803
1935	(20 days)	1,636,617	£35,903
1936	(18 days)	1,535,380	£33,645
1937	(19 days)	1,409,200	£32,168
1938	(19 days)	1,397,320	£31,668
1939	(19 days)	1,380,460	£30,668
1940	(18 days)	1,362,000	£29,258
1941	(18 days)	1,193,390	£31,130

H. Stephens, a South Fremantle defender, holds J. Langoulant, the East Perth full forward, near the goal.



40,000 PEOPLE WITNESS AN INTERSTATE CARNIVAL FOOTBALL MATCH AT SUBIACO OVAL.

Player of the Week.

It is not often that a seasoned footballer can stand down for over a year and make a successful "come-back." D. Cronin, the East Perth coach, has returned to the game after an absence of more than a year and has distinguished himself. Against Perth, on August 16, he kicked goals when they were needed and he played strongly against East Fremantle two weeks later. He kept his forward lines open and working systematically, and it certainly was not his fault that East Perth lost.

On Saturday East Perth badly needed a win from South Fremantle and had hopes of a good victory. Its first setback was the losing of the toss, which meant that South Fremantle would have the aid of a strong wind. South Fremantle scored heavily and when East Perth had the wind in its favour South Fremantle was still able to score, while East Perth struggled haphazardly. Cronin then decided that drastic action was needed. He went on the ball momentarily, and then to centre-half-forward. After half-time he went to the centre, where C. Lewington had been superior, and there was an immediate change in the game. Cronin secured the ball repeatedly and, though it was wet and slippery and other players were kicking poorly, he passed with unerring accuracy to the forwards. Broom was leading perfectly, but his kicking was strangely below standard. Cronin pegged away and in the last term ran himself almost to a standstill. He gave an object lesson in kicking. Unfortunately, the East Perth barrackers were too prone to look for a mistake and when he happened to slip or fall their remarks were anything but encouraging.

The highest tribute Cronin could have received came from J. Bowe, the South Fremantle coach: "I don't care what anybody says. Cronin was a mile ahead of any other player on the ground in the second half. His kicking was perfect and he used his brains." With Cronin kicking is a fetish and he aims for accurate disposal in his team.

VITAL MATCHES.

Fight for Fourth Place.

East Perth and South Fremantle are keen rivals for fourth place on the league football premiership table. At present South Fremantle holds the coveted position, but the qualifying round has not yet ended. On Saturday the last set of home and home games will be played and anything can happen.

Both East Perth and South Fremantle must strive to win. South Fremantle has a superior percentage, but, if it loses on Saturday, East Perth can gain fourth place, if it beats West Perth. South Fremantle will retain fourth place if it wins. If both South Fremantle and East Perth lose on Saturday, South Fremantle will still be fourth. East Perth supporters, therefore, must pray for a win from West Perth and for a defeat of South Fremantle by Claremont. On Saturday West Perth will have no worries, but Claremont must play reasonably well in order to eliminate a very faint possibility of being pushed out of the four.

At present East Fremantle is the premiership favourite. It has built up a solid side and, even when it has had severe losses, it has been able to play well. It has been able to maintain a machine-like combination, having strong reserves. West Perth is a team which is capable of brilliant football. It deserves to hold a prominent position. Last year its officials began a strong drive and the team played well without rising to a place in the final four. This year West Perth began brilliantly and, though it has had its reverses, it has played determinedly. A fine club spirit has been attained and success has followed.

It would not be a betrayal of a secret if mention were made of the fact that East Fremantle supporters consider that Claremont is the most dangerous opponent. Claremont has won the last three premierships but this year it has had unexpected difficulties. The team has not been able to settle down. South Fremantle and East Perth, one of which will contest the first semi-final, are uncertain sides. The South Fremantle team has played brilliantly on occasions but has lapsed badly on others. East Perth is always a menace; just when it appears to be weak it has a knack of developing brilliance. East Perth's 1936 premiership success was an epic.

Following are results of matches played in recent years between the teams which will be engaged in the vital games on Saturday:—

South Fremantle v. Claremont.

1941.—South Fremantle, 16.13 bt. Claremont, 11.6, at Fremantle; Claremont, 13.7, bt. South Fremantle, 9.9 at Claremont.

1940.—South Fremantle, 9.24 bt. Claremont, 9.16, at Fremantle; Claremont, 24.13, bt. South Fremantle, 10.16, at Claremont; South Fremantle, 9.13, bt. Claremont, 8.14, at Fremantle; South Fremantle, 19.16, bt. Claremont, 17.13, at Subiaco (semi-final); Claremont, 13.13, bt. South Fremantle, 9.20, at Subiaco (grand final).

1939.—Claremont, 15.13, bt. South Fremantle, 9.13, at Claremont; South Fremantle, 13.16, bt. Claremont, 11.7, at Fremantle; South Fremantle, 14.13, bt. Claremont, 13.12, at Claremont.

1938.—South Fremantle, 27.18 bt. Claremont, 13.20, at Fremantle; Claremont, 13.18 bt. South Fremantle, 12.12, at Claremont; South Fremantle, 14.18 bt. Claremont, 8.10, at Fremantle.

West Perth v. East Perth

1941.—West Perth, 10.13, bt. East Perth, 10.10, at Perth Oval; East Perth, 10.6, bt. West Perth, 9.7, at Leederville.
1940.—East Perth, 13.14, bt. West Perth, 10.7, at W.A.C.A. ground; East Perth, 11.19, bt. West Perth, 11.4, at Subiaco; East Perth, 10.11, bt. West Perth, 6.8, at Subiaco.
1939.—East Perth, 16.9, bt. West Perth, 9.15, at Perth Oval; East Perth, 17.23, bt. West Perth, 9.13, at Leederville; East Perth, 15.9, bt. West Perth, 8.4, at Leederville.
1938.—West Perth, 10.14, bt. East Perth, 9.15, at Leederville; East Perth, 22.17, bt. West Perth, 12.7, at Perth Oval; East Perth, 10.20, bt. West Perth, 11.7, at Perth Oval.

When the medal was first awarded, in 1921, C. Hoft (Perth) and T. Outridge (Subiaco) deadheated and on the casting vote of the league chairman (Mr. A. A. Moffat), Outridge gained the distinction. Again in 1929 J. Leonard, of Subiaco, and W. C. Thomas (East Perth) tied. Mr. Moffat voted in favour of Thomas. Leonard had won the medal in 1926.

Following are previous winners:—

1921.—T. Outridge (Subiaco), follower.
1922.—H. Boyd (West Perth), half-back.
1923.—W ("Digger") Thomas (East Perth), centre.
1924.—J. Gosnell (West Perth), half back.
1925.—G. Owens (East Perth), follower.
1926.—J. Leonard (Subiaco), rover.
1927.—J. Craig (West Perth), half-back.
1928.—J. Roocht (South Fremantle), rover and centre line.
1929.—W. C. Thomas (East Perth), rover.
1930.—E. Flemming (West Perth), half back.
1931.—L. Richards (East Fremantle), half-back.
1932.—K. Hough (Claremont), centre line and half-back.
1933.—S. Clarke (Claremont), half-back.
1934.—S. Clarke (Claremont), half-back.
1935.—G. Krepp (Swan Districts), wing, and L. Daily (Subiaco), goalkeeper.
1936.—G. Moloney (Claremont), centre.
1937.—F. Jenkins (South Fremantle), centre.
1938.—H. Bunton (Subiaco), rover.
1939.—H. Bunton (Subiaco), rover-follower.
1940.—E. O'Keefe (West Perth), follower.

SANDOVER MEDAL.

Players in the Running.

(By "FOLLOWER.")

This season, probably more so than previously, it is extremely difficult to make a confident forecast regarding the winner of the Sandover Medal, the highest individual award in West Australian league football. Usually it is possible to name three or four men from whom the winner will come but at present the position is obscure.

SOME of the finest footballers Western Australia has had have won the Sandover Medal—have been adjudged the fairest and best during a season. It is an honour to be prized and the player whose name is this year added to the roll must feel proud. It has happened, of course, that champions have not won the medal. Any system of voting, especially one involving individual members of a team, has its weaknesses. A non-partisan onlooker would not relish the task of selecting three men in a match week after week and award points preferentially on a three-two-and-one basis. The umpire has plenty to do in controlling a match and it devolves on him to award the medal votes.

The medal is for the best and fairest player, not for the most brilliant. The best player is he who gives his team best service. Frequently the best player is one who does nothing spectacular, who carries out his instructions and by so doing may be a match-winner. It has been found that the brilliant players in the weakest teams have the best chances of winning the medal. Proof of that is the fact that since 1921 the consistently successful East Fremantle team has had only one Sandover Medal winner. Only twice has a premier team had a medal winner. In 1923 East Perth won the premiership and its centreman, W. ("Digger") Thomas, was awarded the Sandover Medal. L. Richards was the Sandover Medallist in 1931, when East Fremantle won the premiership.

Half-backs, centre-line men, rovers and followers have had outstanding success. L. Daily is the only goalkeeper who has won the medal, and on that occasion he and G. Krepp were named as dual winners. Excellently though some full forwards have played, kicking the goals that have won numerous matches and, in some cases, premierships, not one has won the medal. In fact, they have secured a remarkably small number of votes. Good half-forwards have been scarce and no regular half-forward has won the medal.

This season several men have good claims. P. Williams, of Subiaco, was the best man in three or four matches and was prominent in others. He has missed a couple of games, but he must go close to success, especially if he shows his best form on Saturday, when the voting will close. His captain, H. Bunton, will gain points but he has not equalled his 1938 and 1939 performances. Williams has proved that he possesses outstanding ability and versatility. Although M. Hilar, the Perth half-back, has missed matches, he must be in the running, for at times he played almost a lone hand in defence. E. Henfry, too, has been a fine player for Perth.

J. Williams and T. Darmody have been Swan Districts' best players this season, but neither has played regularly. The fact that so many men in all the teams have had to stand down on occasions makes the task of naming the medal winner more difficult than usual. East Perth's most prominent players have been Starr and O'Loughlan. Starr began the season badly but struck brilliant form later. O'Loughlan is a talented first year player. Thomas has not been as outstanding as last year, while Screaigh has given reliable service. J. Reid, a brilliant player and a team-man, should head the Claremont list, with G. Moloney probably next.

N. McDiarmid, a most successful half-back, has distinguished himself for West Perth and J. Pola has been consistent. S. Heal was conspicuous until his departure for Victoria, while W. Kingsbury also stood out until A.I.F. duties meant his departure for Victoria. H. Stephens and A. Higham have been valuable South Fremantle men, though the former came on the scene late, while J. Reilly must be considered. D. Smith would have gone close to winning the medal had his knee not been injured again. V. French, G. Meiers and G. Doig appear to have the best claims of the East Fremantle men.

W. Jebb (E.P.) marks the ball on the half-forward line.

Association Ladder

	P.	W.	L.	D.	Points For	Agst.	P.C.	P.
Port M.	20	16	4	—	2349	1753	145.2	64
Prahran	20	16	4	—	2345	1820	139.8	64
Coburg	20	15	5	—	2611	1754	150.6	60
Preston	20	14	6	—	2481	1978	125.7	56
B'wick	20	13	7	—	2355	1758	133.9	52
W'oona	20	12	8	—	2351	1973	119.2	48
C'well	20	12	8	—	2265	2228	101.7	48
N'scote	20	7	13	—	1866	1978	94.9	28
Ry'ton	20	6	14	—	1913	2378	83.6	24
O'leigh	20	5	15	—	1960	2403	81.6	20
K'ville	20	4	16	—	1843	2521	64.7	16
Sandham	20	—	20	—	1345	3279	38.8	—

GOALKICKING RECORDS

Bob Pratt's Feats

Bob Pratt, champion goal-kicker

WHEN Bob Pratt kicked his ninth goal for Coburg against Preston on Saturday he set a new Australian goalkicking record for one season, beating the previous figure, 164, by Georke Hawkins, Prahran, in 1939.

Pratt now holds Australian, League and Association records. His League record is 150, made in 1934 with South Melbourne. At the start of play today Pratt had kicked 914 goals in twelve years of League and Association football. He is thus nearing the 1000 mark in quick time, as Harry Vallence took 15 years for his 1000 and Gordon Coventry 18. This is the fourth occasion on which Pratt has passed 100 goals in a season.

1418 Goals in 13 Years

KEN FARMER, North Adelaide captain and full-forward, played his last League game on Saturday. After 13 seasons he thinks it is time to retire. Kicking seven goals against Norwood, he increased his total to 1418, an Australian record for League matches.

IT was a memorable day for Farmer, as North Adelaide Colts, after having played in the curtain-raiser, formed a guard of honor for him as he took the field, and his appearance was the signal for an outburst of cheering from the crowd.

At half time the Mayor of Kensington and Norwood (Mr Martens) called members of his council, and those of Prospect Council together with club officials, and asked them to drink a toast to Farmer.

The North captain was chaired from the oval after the match, and Norwood captain (Kevin Hardiman) presented him with the ball which had been used as a memento.

Shapter Still Rucking Well

An artist's impression of Ron Shapter

ABOVE is a sketch caricature of that grand footballer, and well-known sportsman, Ron Shapter, as he appears today.

Ron, who is now in Libya with the A.I.F., is an artillery gunner, and has seen plenty of action in the thick of the fighting during the past five months. He has fined down considerably, and is now about two stone lighter than when last seen on the field. Our contributor states that he is not quite sure whether the regular "Jerry" dive-bombing attacks have anything to do with this loss of weight, or whether it is the energy expended in pedalling his "Eyetye" push bike round the desert when off duty.

The surroundings in Libya do not lend themselves to football, so Ron does a lot of cycling to keep himself in trim, and punches out 60 lb. shells at "Jerry" as a hobby.

Ron played for South during 1931-2, and for Fitzroy from 1933 to 1936, transferring as coach to Port in 1937. He sends his greetings to all Globe readers, the football public in general, and asks us to convey special regards to "Steak" Curcio, of Fitzroy.

Boyall Wins Medal At Adelaide

WITH a total of 25 votes, Marcus Boyall, of Glenelg, won the Magarey medal, awarded to the fairest and most brilliant player in the S.A. League. Boyall formerly was with Collingwood, and was regarded as one of the best half-backs in the game.

Since transferring to Glenelg he has played in many positions, and in each has done well. He finished the season by playing full-forward on Saturday, and got the umpire's No. 1 vote, as well as kicking nine goals.

Runner-up to Boyall was Jack Oatey, Norwood rover, with 22 votes, who was followed by Jack Skelley, Port Adelaide, 19; and Bill Leak, Sturt, 17.

L. K. Todd, South Adelaide, has been awarded the Magarey medal for the most brilliant player in the Association.

BUNTON'S THIRD SANDOVER MEDAL

Haydn Bunton, Subiaco's captain-coach, has won his third Sandover medal for fairest and best player in League football.

In the voting for the 1941 medal he beat E. Henfry, the young Perth player, by one vote—22 to 21.

F. Williams (Subiaco) was third with 20 votes.

Bunton won the Sandover medal in 1938 and 1939.

Before coming to this State he won the Brownlow for fairest and best player in Victoria in 1931, 1932, 1935.

VOTING

Umpires' votes for the 1941 trophy were counted today.

The leaders' totals were:

H. Bunton (Subiaco)	22
E. Henfry (Perth)	21
F. Williams (Subiaco)	20
J. Reid (Claremont)	19
M. Hilsz (Perth)	18
E. O'Keefe (West Perth)	16
R. Starr (East Perth)	12

The winner and runner-up had a remarkably even vote.

Bunton's 22 votes were made up of five firsts, two seconds, three thirds.

Fred Williams, his team-mate, who was in brilliant form for the first part of the season, got six firsts, one second.

Henfry's tally consisted of five firsts and three seconds. Henfry's team-mate Hilsz secured four firsts, two seconds, two thirds.

OTHERS

The most successful South Fremantle players were Dearle and Reilly, each with 11.

Heal, of West Perth, who has been in Victoria for some weeks, recorded ten votes and McDiarmid eight.

Casserley did best of the East Fremantle team with nine. O'Loughlin, of East Perth also got nine.

Most votes recorded by a Swan Districts player was J. Williams's eight. He had been a popular fancy for the medal.

Bunton's latest win gives Subiaco their sixth Sandover medal success, three of them obtained by Bunton.

West Perth has the next best total with five.

—V—

HAYDN BUNTON

'We'll Win It'—Percy Bentley

PERCY BENTLEY, Carlton coach, will not hear of defeat in the second League semi-final against Melbourne on Saturday.

"We'll win it most certainly," he said, "and, what's more, I am confident we can win the premiership.

"It would be foolish to underestimate Melbourne and I for one certainly do not. But I have seen our fellows win against them twice this season and I think we have just that little bit of extra life and devil that worries them.

"We are fit and every man is right at his top. We should give something more than a good account of ourselves.

"For my part I won't hear of defeat. Stable secrets—now don't ask me to answer that one."

TIGERS LACKED THE MATERIAL

Richmond know now that this year's side was not good enough. Perhaps the officials realised the truth some weeks ago, but could do nothing but face the prospect boldly.

On Saturday, however, the Tiger world was shattered. However, it is not rubble. It is good material from which to build a good team.

IT is a matter of sincere congratulation that Richmond officials have found this good material. They have found several recruits who appear likely to develop into championship class.

Careful coaching can eliminate the witless football and the all too apparent lack of determination that ruined the effectiveness of the team on important occasions.

What does the team lack? First, a better class of middle register players of the general utility type; next, a capable centre man.

DEFENCE MISFITS

The defence must be either recast or must be very thoroughly overhauled. There are too many missfits shaking the division to pieces.

The cardinal error made in regard to this year's defence was the sacrifice of George Smeaton, 1940 champion League full-back. Crane took over Smeaton's post, while Smeaton was cast as a general utility man.

If Crane had a reasonable season Smeaton's season was ruined.

Smeaton is the natural keystone of the defence and must return to full-back if best use is to be made of him. Two tight, hard-hitting but safe pocket backs must be found. Given his time to build his game, Steel could play centre half-back with credit.

Cotter holds a flank half-back, but the rest of the division must go to the melting pot. It doesn't fit. It isn't adequate.

McGuire in his first season had many good days, but facing clever opponents was far too easily bewildered. This, rather than any lack of determination, caused him to fall back on his heels. His future is in his own hands. He has the football, but quicker thinking will be necessary for him to hold centre half-back.

The rovers are weak. Too much responsibility has been thrown on Dick Harris. The natural place for Harris is pocket forward.

Young players in Merritt, Nagel, and Quinn were tried as rovers. Of the three Merritt has most talent. I do not think Merritt will continue either as a rover or a wing man.

Given an inch, Merritt might make a champion centre. He might drop into a back pocket, and become Richmond's most valuable defender. Merritt is a class player, but as a rover lacks the experience to exploit the winnings of the opposition ruck.

Nagel has years ahead of him; he has a good football head and pluck. Jack Quinn must develop a five-yard faster dash.

In the rucks there was far too much action and far too little thinking. The danger is that if the present trend among young players in the packs continues it will become ineradicable. In the last two years the Tigers have suffered through the witless football of big, strong fellows who get the ball brilliantly and then kick it anywhere.

For instance, with Essendon leading, Richmond launched a series of determined assaults. Instead of driving the ball down the centre—a natural game for big men—the big fellows finessed to the wings.

That was ill-considered football. Before kicking there is a lack of steadiness that suggests need of thought and of a plan.

MUST FIND CENTRE

Primarily Richmond must find a centre man. Without a winning centre the Tigers have battled on, but the time has arrived when in the process of team-building a centre must be decided on and given time and opportunity to develop. The centre-line lacks inches, and is not, by a long way, sufficient for the team's needs.

Forward there is a lack of good half-forwards rather than a spearhead. Until now Titus has proved a successful spearhead, though he is in the autumn rather than the spring of his career, and sooner or later a successor must be found.

The Tiger personnel was inadequate. Difficulties came when the ability of successful players was stretched to meet emergencies that were continually arising.

I think Richmond officials should be well satisfied with the team-building they have done. Naturally, there must be disappointment that the team did not win on Saturday and play on, but the truth is Richmond was short of requirements.

Griggs should meet more adequate opposition from men of the type of Baxter (Carlton) and Lock (Melbourne).

Essendon Must Still Improve

Essendon emerged from Saturday's League semi-final with a halo. But the Dons are not that good. In fact, they must go back to their headquarters and work hard to improve two divisions—their centre line and their attack.

On what I saw on Saturday I would expect either Carlton or Melbourne to hold the edge on the 'Dons in any future meeting.

WELL as Essendon played, Carlton or Melbourne will supply a much sterner test. Essendon looked a premiership team as they ran away from Richmond in the final quarter, but the opposition was weak—had been something of a muddle all day.

Any student of seasonal form would expect both the Melbourne and Carlton centre lines to thrash the Essendon trio.

Of the three, H. Lambert in the centre was the only Essendon man to have matters as near to his own way as to claim a win over his opponents. However, to offset this, Edwards trounced Caesar, and Merritt won comfortably against Coward, even giving Coward full credit for his intermittent successes.

Matched on Saturday's form this Essendon line would be mopped up by Anderson, La Fontaine and Daly—the Melbourne crack line—or Brown, Skinner and Green, Carlton's capable trio. The Richmond centre line is not within points of that of either Melbourne or Carlton.

Attack Lacks Combination

Secondly, the Essendon attack must work for closer co-operation. It is perhaps inappropriate to criticise an attack that kicked seven goals straight and finished with 21.9. Nevertheless, this attack will have to stand up against something different from the Carlton defenders in particular, while Melbourne will certainly offer tougher opposition than did Richmond.

Two men alone in the attack knew what to do with the ball—Griggs and Bryce. Certainly, when the game was won Lane came into the picture with a run of goals. But of the early Essendon total when the game was to be won or lost Griggs, from centre half-forward, had got three of the first four goals. He finished with five from centre half forward. Bryce got four from a forward pocket.

More important perhaps than where the goals came from, was the fact that when Dyer went into defence and stimulated something approaching closer defensive tactics the attack became disorganised almost to the point of being a rabble. This occurred in the closing stages of the first quarter and at the opening of the third quarter when Griggs was temporarily eclipsed and the forward division shrivelled up.

Pace Will Be Matched

A further consideration is that Essendon had the edge on Richmond for pace. But they are no faster as a team than are either Melbourne or Carlton. Carlton, in fact, should be able to go every inch of the race with the Dons. Melbourne and Carlton might also have the edge on the Dons in the air.

Then, by comparison with the Carlton rovers, Dick Reynolds and Exelby, the Dons' pair, lack something. I say this well knowing that it has been Torney, their big ruck man, who has made whatever success the rovers have enjoyed. The roving on its own initiative is just average.

Essendon can win this premiership, and, having a leg in already, may be confidently expected to play on, but it would be false reasoning to believe that Saturday's display justifies undue optimism.

It was certainly a brilliant win, but having a mind to the opposition then and the opposition in the future a lot of work is required still if Essendon is to be built into a premiership side.

Essendon has beaten neither Carlton nor Melbourne this season. In fact, the Carlton men have beaten them twice.

First Association Semi-Final

THE Association have reached the finals, and there has been no change in the four. Port Melbourne head the list and, with Prahran second, have the double chance for the grand final. Coburg and Preston, third and fourth respectively, will meet in the first semi-final next Saturday.

FOR almost half their game, Coburg trailed Preston, and it was only because of a strong last quarter that they managed to clinch the game. Even then they almost had to be content with a tie. Curyer (Preston) missed badly from a few yards in front right on the bell. Although having a deliberate shot, he kicked badly for a minor.

None of the finalists played impressively. Coburg and Preston were ragged. Prahran literally lumbered home from Williamstown, while Port Melbourne played spasmodically to beat Oakleigh. Preston have lost five of their last seven games.

In making a new Australian goal-kicking record this year, Bob Pratt has revealed much of his old form. He is showing uncanny accuracy in kicking, while his marking at almost impossible angles is superb.

GOOD YEAR FOR NASH

Laurie Nash also has had a great year in attack. He got 14 goals to finish with 141 for the season. He has a great chance of finishing second to Pratt, as Lynch, his nearest rival, is 12 goals away. Nash's performance is all the greater because, except for the last two matches, he was at centre half-forward.

Brunswick, who just missed the four, had a comfortable win from Yarraville. Northcote finished an in-and-out season by defeating Brighton, while Sandringham surprised Camberwell by pressing them for the first half. Sandringham finished without a win, but had the satisfaction of kicking their highest score in their last game. Scores:—

COBURG, 15.17.107, d. PRESTON, 15.12.102.

NORTHCOTE, 15.19.109, d. BRIGHTON, 7.15.57.

PRAHRAN, 16.14.110, d. WILLIAMSTOWN, 12.18.90.

PORT MELBOURNE, 12.21.93, d. OAKLEIGH, 7.13.55.

CAMBERWELL, 20.16.136, d. SANDRINGHAM, 14.10.94.

BRUNSWICK, 17.24.126, d. YARRAVILLE, 13.10.88.

OR FIRST

Waited — And It Came!

N.S.W.

Crane (Richmond) leaps for the mark but is tackled by Cassin and th eball goes into the waiwting hands of T. Reynolds (Essendon). Steele (Richmond) prepares to follow up.

UMPIRING SECRET

How Can One Drop A Ball Without A Ball?

WE understand that Umpire Tom Bride was to have handled the first League semi-final, but that when he attended the M.C.G. with a throat infection, Umpire Hawkins was substituted.

Hawkins's umpiring was much on a par with the standard set this season. All things considered, it was acceptable umpiring, except in a few instances.

No man umpires the "No-drop" rule satisfactorily, for the good and proper reason that it just can't be umpired.

One of the things objected to is that a good piece of play is often ruined through the umpire penalising the man trying to get the ball for dropping the ball, when he hasn't got it. Which is a nice piece of Irish reasoning.

However, to straighten it out, and to cite an instance, Torney (and he was not the only one to suffer), was free-kicked for dropping the ball, when all he did was to stretch out a long, groping arm, while his opponent, having taken a good hold of his guernsey, used it as a maypole. Almost swung off his feet, and with his guernsey almost ripped off his back, Torney had to recover his balance, then his poise, by making a public adjustment to his attire, and then suffer the indignity of being free-kicked when he did nothing more than think he might (perhaps) somehow do something about getting the ball. It is at such a time that one wishes that the dropping rule applied to the umpire's whistle.

Further, even in wrestling, which is very much go-as-you-please, a strangle hold is barred. But not so under this football rule. Provided your opponent has the ball, you can throttle him, and for such a daring adventure receive the rich reward of a free kick. That, apparently, is the latest interpretation of modern Australian football. The rule is farcical. It always was, and always will be.

FEW Richmond men were seen to advantage. I thought Steele played as well as any one. His defence was solidly effective. He never lost his kick. Had Bob Bawden delivered the ball to better advantage, he would have been the best Tiger. But Bawden's delivery was poorly directed and brought small reward to the side.

* * * *

TIGER wing men, Leo Merritt and Bert Edwards, won comfortably against Coward and Caesar respectively. Merritt is a typical Brownlow Medallist. He is much of a type with Alan Geddes, a former champion flanker with Richmond.

Cassin (Essendon) catches Randall off balance and punches the ball out to his forwards during an attack on Richmond's goal.

"Pops" Heal Measures Up

NO wonder there was a keen struggle to obtain the services of "Pop" Heal, the West Australian, on active service with the Navy, on his being transferred to Melbourne, writes an Eastern States paper.

He had the honour of wearing number 1 jersey, a number that Gordon Jones always wore before joining the A.I.F.

He did not disgrace it, on the contrary, he added honours by being one of the best players afield.

Showing plenty of pace and football sense, Heal never wasted a kick and always placed the ball to his team mates with certainty.

He always had his opponent guessing. The clever manner in which he always played the ball in front, so as not to be caught in possession, was an object lesson. His ability to kick with either foot got him out of difficulty on several occasions.

A first-up player usually requires time to settle in Victoria. Not so with Heal. He obtained the first kick of the match and was a powerful unit throughout the game.

K. FARMER RETIRES.

K. Farmer led North Adelaide for the last time on September 7, for he has decided to retire after 224 games in 13 seasons for his club, in which he scored 1,416 goals, an Australian record. Farmer passed Gordon Coventry's previous aggregate of 1,299 goals last year. His best season was in 1936, when he scored 134 goals, a State record. He reached his thousand goals in league game on May 7, 1938—his tenth season.

He played soccer as a schoolboy, but, changing to the national code, soon found a place in the North Adelaide team in 1929. He played in 17 interstate games, in which he kicked 75 goals, 44 against Victoria in nine games, 21 against Western Australia in six games, and one each against New South Wales and Queensland in one game against each.

Farmer scored 23 goals in a match against West Torrens at Prospect Oval on July 6, 1940. This is the highest tally for a league game played under the district system, but "Bon" Daly kicked 23 goals for Norwood against West Adelaide at Kensington Oval in 1894 before the introduction of district football.

CARLTON CHOSEN TO DOWN DEMONS

Football Section
By H. A. DE LACY

Can Melb. Change Their Tactics?

CARLTON, having to face Melbourne in the second League semi-final, can claim to have produced a team that can and has defeated Melbourne three times on end. Melbourne has yet to produce the team that can defeat Carlton.

Last season Melbourne played the same type of football as they do now. Carlton's record is three wins in three matches—two being on the Melbourne ground. The Blues have beaten Melbourne twice this season.

ADD that the Blues are in better form at the moment than Melbourne and there is found a definite good reason for selecting Carlton as winners at Melbourne on Saturday.

It will not be an easy passage. Several reasons could be produced to suggest why Melbourne should win. In reply, Carlton could produce their reasons why they can win again. However, when both sides and the critics have concluded their summing-up there remains this fact: Melbourne face the necessity of doing the thing they have failed to do three times in succession. That is to beat Carlton.

SMOOTH CO-OPERATION

I doubt whether any team has the quick-fire sequence coupled with the smooth co-operation of good team work that we have seen from Carlton.

Probably the general opinion would be that neither of their possible opponents has the individual talent of Melbourne.

Yet is that so at the moment? Melbourne had the finest array of individual footballers seen on Melbourne grounds since South's galaxy of talent evaporated. But many are missing. From the centre to full forward the talent remains, but elsewhere much is just average or below average.

The rucks are weak. The defence is not outstanding, though men like Emselie, Lock and Hingston still supply a dogged backbone.

Melbourne also must do something about revising their plan of action to defeat Carlton. I doubt whether former tactics, having failed three times on end, will be good enough. Some experiment seems called for.

Till now Melbourne have succeeded by kicking the ball up well, giving their remarkable high marks the call on the ball. The Blues upset the effectiveness of that plan both because they are nearly equal in the air and more capable at smothering and spoiling high marking. On the ground they have proved too versatile and tenacious.

Melbourne must find relief from the spoiling, blanketing, bustling tactics of the Blues.

I think the necessity for changing a long ingrained technique emphasises the advantage of Carlton.

at Carlton and exploited it by back moving and leaving Skinner two yards to the bad.

Skinner has the pace to worry La Fontaine, but he must not give a foot of ground. La Fontaine is the girder of Melbourne's success. Carlton therefore will meet a problem at centre.

The Carlton rucks have proved too fast for the Demons. Carlton's packs handle the ball without losing a stride. Melbourne's are static. The Demons like to nominate their own tempo. Carlton like it on the run. Melbourne's second ruck will have to do better.

In rovers Carlton has Cooper, a will-o'-the-wisp that has upset many clever sides, and Mooring, a clever, well-balanced dasher. Mooring has the pace of the whippet and the tenacity of the bulldog. Against them Melbourne pits Beames and Heal—both clever, both of similar pattern. Both exploit mistakes. Both are experienced. Both can be dangerous, but they do lack the variety and dash of the Carlton pair.

RUCK STIMULATION NEEDED

If Melbourne is to win there must be protection of the attack from the bustling, defensive tactics. The centre must be dominated and both wings held. There must be stimulation of the rucks, particularly the second. That responsibility seems to rest on the rovers.

Carlton produce a variety parade in attack. There are jugglers, contortionists and straight-out effective entertainers. The attack is not as machine-like as Melbourne's, not as venomous, nor so strong. But if the poise of Melbourne is lacking, many things are made up for with originality.

Schmidt, Wrout, Mooring, Cooper, McInnes and Mann, with straight players in Gill and Francis resting from the ruck, supply a score of possibilities, and each different. Usually the goals are well distributed, but there always is one Carlton forward giving a super-game.

Melbourne defence does not seem to have the mutual support necessary to completely blanket an attack of this kind.

Matched again, Carlton hold the belt. Melbourne has to find the way to take it away from them. To retain the belt Carlton must first hold the Melbourne forwards as effectively as they did at Carlton, and must hold La Fontaine tighter than they did that day.

Abbott (Essendon), Torney (Essendon) and Bawden (Richmond) leap simultaneously for the hit-out after a throw-in from the boundary in Saturday's semi-final at the M.C.G.

Briefly, a summary of the pros and cons of both teams shows: Melbourne excel in attack. Carlton defence is brilliant and dogged. At their last meeting Melbourne's forwards did as well as they can. They were as effective as they were allowed to be. They got the ball, but were unable to use it as' against other opposition formerly. They had been forced to the awkward corners of the ground in kicking for goals. Their 3-17 at one stage was due more to Carlton's forcing, bustling defence than any marked inaccuracy in Melbourne's kicking.

Across the centre Carlton had the drop for three-quarters until La Fontaine in a devastating last quarter swung the balance. The Carlton wingers, Green and Brown, had a decided advantage over Anderson and Daly. The Melbourne wingmen, however, seem to have a little more pace and the M.C.G. might suit them better.

In the centre Skinner has the edge on La Fontaine — in pace, but not in clever turning or exploitation. Skinner is a left-footer and has a tendency to attack his vis-a-vis—a left-footer's tendency. La Fontaine early sensed this

I think Carlton will win. The Blues have the current form and the background of confidence and the variety and versatility to meet any immediate emergency. What comes after Saturday is for another day.

I HEARD it said in the Essendon room that Buttsworth was their best man. That is something with which The Globe staff could not agree. There were five of The Globe football staff in the press-box, and when I asked them to name the best man there was a unanimous answer—"Griggs."

There was a strong consensus of opinion, indeed, that Buttsworth was not the 'Don's best defender. Buttsworth certainly did a fine job, but we thought his value to the side had been surpassed by Ruddell, the full-back.

Ruddell was given the task of countering Jack Titus, the Tigers' dangerous forward. In previous games this season Titus had had field days. He had to be checked if the 'Dons were to win. Ruddell had the "drop" on Titus all day, and that was the most important task set the Essendon defence. Ruddell did it.

CHAMPION'S DEATH.

A KICKING EXPERT.

"Poet" Smith's Career.

The death of Mr. Walter Smith, better known to followers of football as "Poet" Smith, at his business last Saturday, will be regretted by all connected with the game in the early years of the present century. Mr. Smith distinguished himself as a half-forward on the goldfields, where he played for 14 years before he joined East Fremantle. He began playing in 1906 with Railways and transferred the next year to Minea Rovers. He was a member of the first carnival team from Western Australia in 1908 and held his place in both the 1911 and 1914 series. A fellow member of the 1911 team was Mr. W. ("Bonner") Hebbard, who had been associated with him in business at Beaconsfield for 27 years and even before that at Bendigo in Victoria.

Speaking of Mr. Smith's football career, Mr. Hebbard said that he was a very accurate kick, using a place-kick as well as the drop-kick. "Although we have been together ever since we were boys we always played football against each other," said Mr. Hebbard. "He won a big carnival kicking competition at the Boulder Oval. He had three shots from different angles and kicked three goals to win the medal. A well known feat of his was to single out a post and hit it with the ball from a good distance. Even in later years he could do this in the street outside the shop."

One of Mr. Smith's souvenirs was the ball which was used for the grand final of the goldfields competition of 1906. The ball bears the inscription: "Presented to W. Smith by Mines Rovers, premiers, 1906." In that year he won the State goal-kicking competition with 65 goals, which was a large tally in those times, and also established a goal-kicking record for a match with 20 goals.

Two of Mr. Smith's sons, Walter and Don, have rendered good service to South Fremantle. Don has played this year, but has been forced out of the game through a knee injury. Of Don, Mr. Hebbard said: "In my opinion he would have been more outstanding than his father."

WOODHOUSE GOOD.

When J. Woodhouse trained early last year with West Perth he was noted as a fine player in the making. However, he decided to continue in junior ranks. This season he played in the league side and has been a dependable player. Early his form was a little disappointing but lately he has played strongly. He is a tigerish player and has the happy knack of finding the open spaces. Once he gets the ball, and he can get it for himself, he usually knicks it to advantage.